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(U) COUNTRY: IRAQ SUBJ: TAKE 3 OF 5--IRAQI COMMANDER MEMOIRS ON MISSILES (1)

(U) REF: JN2011144298 AMMAN AL-'ARAB AL-YAWM IN ARABIC 25 OCT 98 P 11 /// STRIKES BE REPEATED?

(U) SOURCE: AMMAN AL-'ARAB AL-YAWM IN ARABIC 25 OCT 98 P 11 TEXT:

(U) THE PARTICIPANTS AGREED THAT WE MUST CONCENTRATE ON THE TARGETS WHICH SHOULD BE HIT BY THE MISSILE CORPS AND THOSE BY THE AIR FORCE. WE FOUND EIGHT SUITABLE TARGETS FOR THE MISSILE CORPS AND EIGHT FOR THE AIR FORCE. THUS, WE HAD 16 SUITABLE TARGETS FOR ATTACK BY AIRCRAFT AND MISSILES IN RETALIATION FOR ANY MILITARY ACTION THAT MIGHT BE CARRIED OUT BY THE ZIONIST ENTITY AGAINST IRAQI TARGETS. WE TOOK INTO CONSIDERATION THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S DIRECTIVES THAT THE TARGETS SHOULD BE FAR FROM CITIES AND RESIDENTIAL AREAS AND THAT THEY SHOULD BE VITAL TO ENEMY MILITARY EFFORT, WHICH WOULD THUS DETER THEM FROM COMMITTING FURTHER CRIMES AGAINST THE IRAQIS AND THE STRUGGLER PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. 28 AUGUST 1989 MORE UPDATED MAPS OF PALESTINE WERE PRINTED AFTER THE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIRECTORATE HAD CARRIED OUT A GENERAL REVISION OF THE COORDINATES. EFFORTS WERE ALSO CONCERTED AT THE MISSILE DIRECTORATE TO MAKE THE CHANGES IN LIGHT OF THE NEW MAPS AND DATA. A FEW MINUTES BEFORE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, I RECEIVED THE REPORT ABOUT THE OFFICIAL SOVIET APOLOGY

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NOT TO SUPPLY US WITH AR17 [illegible] ENSE MINISTRY AND MIO THAT THEY NO LONGER PRODUCED THE MISSILES AND DID NOT HAVE ANY RESERVE. 7 OCTOBER 1989 I REMEMBER THIS DAY IN 1973 VERY WELL. I WAS ENTHUSIASTIC AS ANY OTHER FIGHTER IN THE IRAQI ARMY. WAR BROKE OUT ON 6 OCTOBER 1973 ON THE EGYPTIAN AND SYRIAN FRONTS, AND IRAQ DECIDED TO TAKE PART AFTER HEARING THE NEWS FROM THE RADIOS. I WAS STAFF OFFICER AT THE TIME IN CHARGE OF MOVEMENTS AND ARMAMENTS IN THE ARTILLERY DIRECTORATE. WE WERE FOLLOWING THE MOVEMENT OF OUR FORCES AS THEY RUSHED TO THE RESCUE OF DAMASCUS. THEY INCLUDED TANKS AND ARMORED CARS. I SPOKE ENTHUSIASTICALLY: IF ALL THE STRATEGIC MISSILES AND GUNS WITH THE ARAB STATES ARE USED IN ONE EFFECTIVE STRIKE, WHAT CAN THE ZIONIST ENTITY AND THE UNITED STATES DO IN FACE OF SUCH A MASSIVE FORCE? CAN THEY TAKE REVENGE FROM ALL THE ARAB STATES?! MY VISION STEMMED FROM MY BELIEF AND FAITH ABOUT THE NEED FOR A UNIFIED ARAB POLICY AGAINST THE ZIONIST ENTITY. WE HAD THE STRONGEST WEAPON, OIL. AND LIFE, IN MY OPINION, WAS FAITH AND JIHAD. SO, WHAT WERE WE WAITING FOR? I RECALLED HOW I FOUGHT IN THE 1967 WAR AND HOW A RELATIVE OF MINE FELL IN THE BATTLE WITH PRIDE. HE WAS A CO-PILOT OF THE IRAQI PLANE SHOT DOWN OVER TEL AVIV IN 1967. IT WAS ONE OF TWO IRAQI PLANES THAT FLEW DEEP INTO ENEMY TERRITORY. WELL, I SAID, THE DAY WILL COME WHEN WE WILL ACHIEVE THE BIG DREAM. (MORE) 25 OCT [redacted] 1 NOVEMBER 1989 THE (b)(3)
WORK CONTINUED TO ACHIEVE AT LEAST THE MINIMUM LEVEL OF ENGINEERING PREPARATION FOR THE PROCESS OF HIDING THE LAUNCHING PADS OF MOBILE AND FIXED BASES WITH THE LIMITED RESOURCES AVAILABLE THEN WITH THE MILITARY ENGINEERING CORPS. WE RECEIVED THE ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF'S APPROVAL OF WHAT WE TERMED "PROJECT 44" FOR FULL ENGINEERING SUPPORT. THE PROJECT WAS SUMMED AS FOLLOWS: DUE TO THE RANGE OF AL-HUSAYN MISSILE, H2 AREA IN THE WESTERN DESERT WOULD BE SUITABLE FOR LAUNCHING STRIKES AT TARGETS IN THE CENTER OF OCCUPIED PALESTINE, SUCH AS TEL AVIV; H3 AREA WOULD BE SUITABLE FOR LAUNCHING STRIKES AT TARGETS IN THE SOUTH, SUCH AS ELAT; AND THE AREA WEST OF KILOMETER 160 WOULD BE SUITABLE FOR LAUNCHING STRIKES AT TARGETS IN THE NORTH, SUCH AS HAIFA. AND DUE TO THE FACT THAT WESTERN IRAQ IS ALL DESERT AND FREE OF SUITABLE NATURAL FORTIFICATIONS, IT WAS PLANNED TO BUILD SUCH INSTALLATIONS THAT REQUIRED TIME AND THE ALLOCATION OF LARGE SUMS OF MONEY. IT WAS DECIDED THAT THE INSTALLATIONS SHOULD INCLUDE SCORES OF ARMED SHELTERS TO PROTECT AND HIDE THE MEANS OF FIRING, FORTIFIED DEPOTS TO STORE MISSILE PARTS, AND FORTIFIED COMMAND POSTS AND SHELTERS FOR PERSONNEL UP TO THE LEVEL OF BRIGADE, BATTALION, AND BATTERY. THIS WAS IN ADDITION TO BUILDING DOUBLE THE NUMBER OF SUCH INSTALLATIONS WITH LESS FORTIFICATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF CAMOUFLAGE AND DEPLOYMENT. I MUST EXPLAIN HERE THAT THESE INSTALLATIONS WERE NOT BUILT AS WE HAD IN MIND, IN VIEW OF THE DIFFICULTY OF INSURING THE RESOURCES. I HAD ALWAYS HOPED TO POSSES A MISSILE SYSTEM WITH A RANGE OF 850-1000 KILOMETERS AND A HIGH ACCURACY TO ENABLE US TO ATTACK ANY TARGET IN THE ZIONIST ENTITY FROM SAFE AREAS IN IRAQ; IN OTHER WORDS, FROM AREAS CONCEALED AND FORESTED SO THAT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO HIDE IN THEM, NOT LIKE THE WESTERN REGION WHICH IS OPEN DESERT WITH NO FORTIFICATIONS IN SIGHT. 5 DECEMBER 1989 THE PRESIDENT CONTINUED TO FOLLOW THE STAGES OF OUR WORK, WHICH INCREASED OUR MORALE AND MADE US WORK CONTINUOUSLY WITHOUT FEELING TIRED OR NEEDING LEAVE OR REST. I THOUGHT THAT THE EFFORTS PUT UP BY SOME OF OUR TECHNICIANS WERE BEYOND HUMAN ENDURANCE AND DEFINITELY SHOWED A DESIRE TO EXCEL AND TO CREATE. HERE ARE THE MIO MEN GIVING THE HOMELAND THEIR BEST SCIENTIFIC EFFORTS. AND HERE ARE THEIR EFFORTS BEARING FRUITS WITH THE LAUNCHING OF AL'-ABID MISSILE THIS DAY AFTER SINCERE AND EARNEST WORK AND

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SEVERAL MONTHS FIELDS OF PLANNING AND LAUNCHING TESTS. THE EXPERIMENT WAS A SUCCESS, THE GOOD TIDINGS WERE COMMUNICATED, AND WE REAPED THE FRUIT OF OUR PATIENCE, HARD WORK, AND EFFORTS, WHICH WERE PURELY IRAQI, WITHOUT THE HELP OF ANY FOREIGN EXPERTISE. 29 DECEMBER 1989 THE YEAR 1989 CAME TO AN END, BUT THERE WERE STILL MANY PROBLEMS THAT REQUIRED SOLUTIONS IN THE ARMAMENT, LOGISTICAL, AND MANAGEMENT FIELDS. (MORE) END OF MESSAGE UNCLASSIFIED

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